Discrimination of Arcobacter butzleri isolates by polymerase chain reaction-mediated DNA fingerprinting

**Aims:** The objective of this study was to subtype Arcobacter butzleri isolates using RAPD-PCR. **Methods and Results:** Thirty-five A. butzleri isolates obtained from chicken carcasses were examined. PCR-mediated DNA fingerprinting technique with primers of the variable sequence motifs was used to detect polymorphism within the isolates. Eleven distinct DNA profiles were obtained as follows: Of the 35 strains, 10 as profile 4; seven as profile 1; five as profile 3; three as profiles 2 and 9; two as profile 10; one as profiles 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11. **Conclusions:** Chicken carcasses sold in markets were found to be contaminated with several different strains of A. butzleri. RAPD-PCR technique was found to be a useful technique for distinguishing A. butzleri isolates. Significance and Impact of the Study: The presence of several different A. butzleri strains on chicken carcasses may indicate multiple sources of contamination. The epidemiological role of A. butzleri in human and animal diseases should be investigated further.

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